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Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOTE-00 EB-07 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 IOE-00 AF-06

ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 /069 W
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P 151402Z MAR 76
FM AMCONSUL MONTREAL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7327

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E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PORG, EAIR, ICAO
SUBJ: ICAO: SECRETARY GENERAL ELECTION

1. TO SUPPORT CANDIDACY IN ICAO SYG ELECTION OF MRS. DILLON (WHO IS ON LEAVE DUE TO SERIOUS ILLNESS IN FAMILY) DEPARTMENT DETAILED AN IO OFFICER TO MONTREAL FOR TWO DAYS. FOLLOWING IS REPORT HIS ACTIVITIES AND IMPRESSIONS GAINED FROM VISITS WITH ALTERNATE USREP TO ALL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT IN MONTREAL EXCEPT ONE.

2. OFFICER DELIVERED LETTERS FROM FAA ADMINISTRATOR MCLUCAS TO EACH NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE. LETTERS CONTAINED GREETING AND STATED MCLUCAS' SUPPORT FOR DILLON CANDIDACY. LETTERS WERE WELL RECEIVED IN EACH INSTANCE. POINT THAT MRS. DILLON'S CANDIDACY IS SUPPORTED BY FAA HAD GOOD EFFECT AND CAME ACROSS CLEARLY TO LETTER RECIPIENTS.

3. MESSAGE WHICH WE HAVE RECEIVED IN RETURN IS THAT DELEGATIONS ARE STILL AWAITING INSTRUCTION FROM NATIONAL CAPITALS. MANY DELS (ABOUT 10) SAID THEY PERSONALLY RECOMMENDED THEIR COUNTRY ISSUE INSTRUCTIONS FOR THEM TO VOTE FOR MRS. DILLON. OTHERS MAY HAVE DONE SAME BUT DID NOT VOLUNTEER SUCH INFORMATION. ONE REPRESENTATIVE (KENYA) FELT SO CERTAIN HIS RECOMMENDATION WOULD BE ADOPTED THAT HE SAID WE COULD COUNT ON HIS VOTE ON ALL BALLOTS. IMPRESSION WAS GAINED THAT THERE IS ADEQUATE
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SUPPORT IN MONTREAL NOW TO INSURE MRS. DILLON WILL BE AMONG THE

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THREE CANDIDATES WHOSE NAMES WILL APPEAR ON THE THIRD BALLOT.
PROBLEM IS TO INSURE THAT SUPPORT IS MATCHED IN CAPITALS AND THAT
IT DOES NOT MELT AWAY BETWEEN NOW AND APRIL 5. AT THE SAME TIME,
WE HAVE TO INSURE THAT THE SUPPORT FOR OTHER CANDIDATES WHO ARE
ELIMINATED IN EARLY BALLOTING WILL SWING TO DILLON ON LATER
BALLOTS.

4. MAJOR PROBLEM AREA NOW IS IN CAPITALS. NOTHING SHOULD
BE TAKEN FOR GRANTED AT THIS POINT. FOR INSTANCE, LEBANESE REP
SAID HE HAS JUST RETURNED FROM BEIRUT AND GOL HAS NOT RPT NOT TAKEN
ANY DECISION REGARDING ICAO SYG ELECTION. IT IS OBVIOUS THAT IN
CONFUSED BEIRUT SITUATION MORE WORK COULD BE DONE, IF THIS IS
PHYSICALLY POSSIBLE.

5. BOTH GERMANS AND SWEDES FEEL DILLON'S NATIONALITY MAY WORK
AGAINST HER AND NEITHER OF THESE NATIONAL REPS SEEMS WILLING TO
GIVE MUCH SUPPORT BECAUSE THEY BOTH OBVIOUSLY WANT TO BACK A
WINNER. OF COURSE, IF BOTH WOULD DECIDE TO SUPPORT HER, THEY
WOULD GO A LONG WAY TOWARD ASSURING THAT DILLON WILL WIN.

6. SWEDISH REP WAS ONLY ONE WHO MENTIONED FACT THAT DILLON
IS A WOMAN. HE ASKED IF WE WEREN'T AFRAID THIS WOULD WORK AGAINST
HER. REPLY WAS THAT WE HAD CONSIDERED THIS RATHER OBVIOUS
FACT AND HAD DECIDED SHE WAS THE BEST CANDIDATE. IF THERE
ARE THOSE WHO WOULD VOTE AGAINST HER FOR THAT REASON THEN THERE
IS LITTLE WE CAN DO ABOUT IT. WE ADDED THAT HIS QUERY WAS THE
ONLY ONE WE HAVE RECEIVED TO THAT POINT AND WE CAN ONLY ASSUME
SEX OF CANDIDATE IS NOT REALLY AN ISSUE IN THIS ELECTION.

7. INTERESTING POINT IS THAT MOST DELS BELIEVE FINAL CHOICE
WILL BE BETWEEN DILLON, LAMBERT AND LAMI-DOZO. FEW, IF ANY,
FEEL THERE WILL BE MUCH SUPPORT EITHER FOR VIVIAN OR BARKAH.
SEVERAL SAID BARKAH'S SUPPORT, WHICH WAS STRONG AT FIRST, SEEMS
TO BE SLIPPING AWAY. REGARDING VIVIAN, SOME SAID BRITISH SEEM
HALFHEARTED IN THEIR ESPOUSAL OF HIS CANDIDACY, OTHERS SAY
HE IS NOT A GOOD CANDIDATE.

8. COMMENT: AT THIS POINT, OUR MAIN GOAL IS TO INSURE DILLON'S
NAME MAKES IT TO THIRD BALLOT (AFTER FIRST BALLOT CANDIDATES WHO
HAVE NOT RECEIVED AS MANY AS TWO VOTES WILL BE REMOVED, AT
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END OF SECOND BALLOT THREE NAMES WILL BE SELECTED FOR VOTING
ONE WEEK LATER DURING WHICH TIME DELEGATES WILL BE ABLE TO
CONFER WITH THEIR CAPITALS.) OF COURSE, SUCCESS IN MAKING THE
THIRD BALLOT HAS TO BE FOLLOWED BY WINNING THE ELECTION.
THE ONLY MEANS OF DOING THIS IS OBTAINING ALL THE SUPPORT WE
CAN FROM EVERY CORNER.
HARPER

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